

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 19230 181348Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-13 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 INRE-00 HA-05 SS-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00 SP-02
PM-05 DODE-00 SAA-01 SSM-03 L-03 SES-02 /080 W
-----027811 181404Z /50

O 181309Z AUG 78 ZFD
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2770
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T CAIRO 19230

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR EG PORC
SUBJECT: WORLD CONFERENCE ON RACISM: ZIONISM/RACISM
RESOLUTION

REF: (A) STATE 209399, (B) CAIRO 19060

1. WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO SUGGESTING TO EGYPTIANS THAT
THEY CONSIDER STRATEGY OUTLINED REFTEL. AS PREVIOUSLY
REPORTED, FONMIN KAMEL IS CURRENTLY ON VACATION. TODAY
IS FRIDAY, THE MUSLIM SABBATH, AND ALL GOE OFFICES ARE
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PAGE 02 CAIRO 19230 181348Z

CLOSED. HOPEFULLY MINSTATE BOUTROS GHALI WILL BE BACK
IN THE OFFICE TOMORROW AND WE CAN TRY OUT APPROACH ON HIM.
FAILING THIS, WE CAN TRY IT OUT ON MFA UNDERSEC KHALIL.

2. AT GABONESE NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION, AMBASSADOR DIS-
CUSSED SUBJECT WITH KHALIL. KHALIL AFFIRMED THAT INSTRUC-
TIONS HAD BEEN SENT TO SHAFAI ALONG LINES REF B. HE ALSO

NOTED THAT SHAFAI HAS DISCRETIONARY AUTHORITY TO HANDLE MATTER AS HE SEES FIT, HAVING IN MIND, HOWEVER, THE NEED TO AVOID EXPOSING GOE TO FURTHER CRITICISM BY OTHER ARAB STATES. THESE ARE THE GROUND RULES UNDER WHICH EGYPTIAN DELEGATION IS WORKING. WHETHER EGYPTIANS WILL BE WILLING TAKE MORE ACTIVE ROLE AND RUN RISK OF EXPOSING THEMSELVES TO ARAB IRE REMAINS TO BE SEEN.

3. SINCE WE ARE NOT REPRESENTED AT CONFERENCE, IT IS CLEARLY DIFFICULT TO TRY TO STAGE MANAGE IT BY REMOTE CONTROL. RE PARA 3 REF A, WE AGREE THAT APPROACH SHOULD BE MADE TO CANADIANS AND DUTCH WITHOUT DELAY TO TAKE INITIATIVE TO MEET WITH SHAFAI, IF THEY HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO. WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO CANADIANS AND/OR DUTCH, IF THEY WISH, SAYING TO SHAFAI THAT THEY ARE AWARE OF KAMEL'S COMMITMENT TO US TO INSTRUCT EGYPT DEL TO OPPOSE ZIONISM/RACISM ITEM AND TO TRY TO WORK OUT A COMMON STRATEGY TO DO SO, WHETHER IT IS THAT SUGGESTED BY US OR SOME MODIFICATION THEREOF DICTATED BY TACTICAL SITUATION ON THE GROUND.

4. IN HANDLING THIS MATTER, WE SHOULD BEAR IN MIND THAT OUR PERTINENT VIEWS AND THOSE OF THE EGYPTIANS OVERLAP ONLY IN PART. EGYPTIANS DO NOT OPPOSE ZIONISM/RACISM RESOLUTION OUT OF ABHORENCE OR CONVICTION. MANY EGYPTIANS, INCLUDING AT HIGH LEVELS, SHARE THE WIDESPREAD
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PAGE 03 CAIRO 19230 181348Z

ARAB VIEW THAT MR. BEGIN'S POLICIES ARE RACIST IN CHARACTER. EGYPTIANS ARE WILLING TO OPPOSE ZIONISM/RACISM RESOLUTION AT GENEVA BECAUSE THEY SHARE OUR CONCERN THAT IT COULD HAVE NEGATIVE IMPACT ON MIDDLE EAST PEACE NEGOTIATIONS. THAT IS THE ELEMENT OF COMMONALITY IN OUR POSITIONS AND SHOULD BE STRESSED FOR ALL IT IS WORTH IF WE ARE LOOKING FOR PRACTICAL RESULTS RATHER THAN PHILOSOPHICAL DEBATE.

5. WILL REPORT AS SOON AS WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MEET WITH GHALI OR KHALIL. EILTS

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NNN

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